

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 981

By Powers

A RESOLUTION to honor the Clarksville Area Better Beef Show.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly take pleasure in recognizing an outstanding agricultural event that has provided educational opportunities for young people for more than seven decades; and

WHEREAS, the Clarksville Area Better Beef Show was founded by the Clarksville/Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce some seventy-one years ago but is now operated by the Montgomery County Cattlemen's Association through the auspices of a board composed of Association members, past exhibitors, and University of Tennessee (UT) Extension representatives; and

WHEREAS, widely recognized as the oldest and largest 4-H FFA steer show in the State, the Clarksville Area Better Beef Show serves the farm youth of Montgomery, Cheatham, Robertson, Dickson, Stewart, and Houston counties in Tennessee and Todd and Christian counties in Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, the Montgomery County Cattlemen's Association, FFA, 4-H, and UT Extension work together to teach young farmers the basics of Tennessee's agricultural economy through the real-life experience of raising and selling cattle; and

WHEREAS, utilizing a veritable army of volunteers, the Clarksville Area Better Beef Show hosts various competitions, including rate of weight gain, showmanship, and recordkeeping, and a Skill-a-thon; and

WHEREAS, the carcass show is the only such competition in the State that uses real-time data, collected by the USDA, from the meat cooler; and

WHEREAS, the Steer of Merit competition teaches young people the importance of balance in life, and the Premier Exhibitor competition combines all aspects of the other contests to determine the best overall exhibitor; and

WHEREAS, the Clarksville Area Better Beef Show enjoys a 100 percent success rate in assisting young exhibitors sell the meat from their calves to local families, thus teaching them about the importance of farm-to-plate marketing in agriculture; and

WHEREAS, in 2021 alone, the seventy-five calves entered in the Better Beef Show received a per-calf average of \$1,160 in sponsorship money and earned a per-calf average of \$1,725 in meat sales to local consumers for a grand total exceeding \$216,000; and

WHEREAS, combined with the premiums paid by the Better Beef Show, this amount represents more than \$1.3 million generated in the local economy by these young beef farmers; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's young cattlemen and cattlegirls represent the extremely bright future of agriculture in this State, and the Clarksville Area Better Beef Show plays a critical role in educating and developing these remarkable young people into the beef farmers of tomorrow; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the Clarksville Area Better Beef Show as one of the oldest, biggest, and finest agricultural competitions in this State and thank its leadership, board members, and volunteers for their ongoing commitment to expanding Tennessee's agricultural economy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to

the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.